

LANESBOROUGH FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES SEPTEMBER 27, 2016  
Respectfully submitted by Sherri Thompson

**Attendees:** Ray Jones, Chris Galib; Stephen Wentworth; Ron Tinkham; Rebecca Flood;  
Paul Sieloff, Town Manager; Sherri Thompson

**Meeting called to order:** Chair, Mr. Jones, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Tinkham moved to approve the Minutes from June 28. Ms. Galib seconded. All in favor. Motion passed

**Public Comment:** None

**Town Accountant Position Update:**

The person who had been hired to start in mid-August called and declined the position. The job has been reposted and interviews are being conducted. Mr. Wentworth questioned if the work necessary was behind and asked if it would be too overwhelming for the new person, specifically based on a learning curve. Mr. Sieloff indicated that he did not believe the work-load was that far behind because there have been people working on bills, etc. to keep them up to date. Mr. Jones asked if the position could be filled by an outside firm. Mr. Sieloff said the pay is an issue, that it could cost upwards of 50% more.

**Board of Health Budget:**

A Reserve Fund Transfer of \$5,000 was tentatively requested to cover court, demolition, etc. costs of derelict houses. Mr. Cal Joppru, Health Agent, will attend the Finance Committee meeting November 7 to explain.

**Legal Budget:**

Mr. Sieloff stated the Legal Budget will hopefully now start to level off due to the completion of the Narragansett Ave. bridge legal work; the Berkshire Mall tax assessment settlement; and the Rail Trail project being postponed.

**Berkshire Mall Settlement and Sale:**

The previous owner settled the tax issue prior to sale closing. Mr. Tinkham indicated the assessment for FY17 was \$32 million. Mr. Sieloff explained the assessment likely would decrease by at least \$5-10 million over the next two years. Mr. Sieloff said the assessment is mostly based on rental leases.

**Ambulance/EMT Budget:**

Mr. Sieloff explained this is an Enterprise Fund and is budget neutral. Mr. Sieloff indicated there is not as much revenue being generated and recommended a Budget line item may have to be added to subsidize the Fund.

**Other Proposed Budget:**

None

**Other business which could not have been reasonably foreseen within 48 hours of the meeting:**

1. Recap Sheet – Mr. Tinkham and Mr. Wentworth to review.
2. Mr. Wentworth and Ms. Galib have requested Town emails be created for them. Mr. Sieloff will follow-up.

**Next Meeting:** November 7 at 6:00 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** December 5 at 6:00 p.m. (Diane to prepare the proposed 2017 meeting calendar)

**Adjournment:** Mr. Tinkham made a motion to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. Motion was seconded by Ms. Galib. 5-0 in favor. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

**Footnotes:**